

# USING LOGICAL NAMES AS A STRING TO DISTINGUISH LOGICAL CONTROLS

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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An invention is provided abstracting device names in a system. The invention includes receiving a logical name indicating a device type of physical device present in a system. A physical device in the system then is selected, which has a device type indicated by the logical name. Next, a physical device name is determined for a software component representing the selected physical device. In one aspect, the physical device name can be provided to a requesting application program. In this case, the physical device name can be a character string. Optionally, a handle to the software component can be provided to the requesting application program. The logical name can be a generic character string indicating a device type of a physical device present in a system.

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